TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 13, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 8 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 6.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 32 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 551.2 billion ton-miles carried, up 3.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended August 8 totaled 396,683, up 5.3 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 1.9 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 6.3 percent in the East and up 4.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 11 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed a gain of 4,075 cars loaded (16.1 percent) and chemicals and allied products increased by 3,406 cars (15.3 percent). Fifteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 1, totaled 101,213 trailers and/or containers, 1.5 percent below last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 31 weeks of the year was 2,996,812 trailers and/or containers, up 3.5 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/8/87:

	Loadings in Week ended August 8, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,458	I	4,075	16.1	D	1,419	4.6
Other farm products	2,810	D	316	10.1	D	484	14.7
Metallic ores	13,146	D	2,133	14.0	D	2,739	17.2
Coal	112,801	D	1,519	1.3	D	1,564	1.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,602	I	3,074	21.2	I	850	5.1
Nonmetallic minerals	10,102	I	884	9.6	D	576	5.4
Grain mill products	10,430	D	77	0.7	D	39	0.4
Food and kindred products	10,834	D	22	0.2	D	705	6.1
Primary forest products	10,447	I	596	6.1	D	403	3.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,948	I	779	10.9	D	995	11.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,438	D	384	3.0	D	568	4.4
Chemicals and allied products	25,657	I	3,406	15.3	I	491	2.0
Petroleum products	4,849	D	397	7.6	D	320	6.2
Stone, clay and glass products	11,120	I	734	7.1	D	352	3.1
Coke	4,969	I	1,491	42.9	D	196	3.8
Metals and products	8,889	I	1,925	27.6	D	471	5.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,381	D	517	3.5	I	403	2.9
Waste and scrap materials	8,561	I	1,066	14.2	I	137	1.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,052	D	186	5.7	I	275	9.9
All other carloads	77,110	I	7,677	11.1	I	1,073	1.4
LCL traffic	79	D	12	13.2	D	6	7.1
Total Cars Loaded	396,683	I	20,144	5.3	D	7,608	1.9
Corresponding week of 1986	376,539						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (32 weeks)	12,326,944	11,980,506	I 2.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
31 Weeks ended August 1	533.0	515.5	I 3.4
Week ended August 8	18.2	17.1	I 6.7
32 Weeks cumulative	551.2	532.5	I 3.5

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